

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 15-18, amend claims 3, 4, 6, and 8-14, and add new claims 24-33 as follows:

1. (Original) A composition for use in the prevention or treatment of Inflammatory Bowel Disease comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a soluble fibre derivable from fruit of the *Musa* spp.
2. (Original) The composition according to claim 1 wherein the soluble fibre is derivable from an aqueous solution decantable from homogenised fruit.
3. (Amended) The composition according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein the soluble fibre is derived from boiling the fruit.
4. (Amended) The composition according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~ wherein the soluble fibre is treated to remove starch.
5. (Original) The composition according to claim 4 wherein the starch is removed by enzyme digestion of the starch.
6. (Amended) The composition according to claim 1, ~~any preceeding claim~~ wherein the soluble fibre is derivable from the precipitate ~~precipitate~~ of an aqueous solution treated with ethanol.
7. (Original) The composition according to claim 6 wherein the aqueous solution is subjected to a precipitation step with 80% ethanol.
8. (Amended) The composition according to ~~any preceeding~~ claim 1 wherein the soluble fibre is obtained by:
 - (1) chopping fresh fruit and removing any skins and placing in an aqueous solution;
 - or freeze-drying whole fruit (excluding skins), milling it and placing in an aqueous

solution; or milling desicated fruit and placing it in an aqueous solution; or taking flour prepared from fruit and placing in an aqueous solution;

(2) taking the solution from (1) and heating to gelatinise starch and disperse any starch granules;

(3) cooling the heated solution from (2) and hydrolysing with starch digesting enzymes to ensure all/most starch is removed; and,

optionally the solution (3) ~~may then be~~ is precipitated and washed with 80% ethanol and centrifuged; the alcoholic supernatant is then discarded and the residue freeze-dried or spray-dried.

9. (Amended) The composition according to claim 1 9 wherein the soluble fibre is obtained by:

(a) freeze-drying and milling skinned whole fruit;

(b) boiling the milled material to gelatinise any starch and ~~dispere~~ disperse any starch granules;

(c) hydrolysing starch in the material with amylase;

(d) precipitating and washing the material with ethanol and freeze drying or spray drying to produce a residue; and

(e) reconstituting the freeze-dried or spray-dried residue, boiling and centrifuging; wherein the supernatant from the centrifugation (e) comprises the soluble fibre.

10. (Amended) The composition according to ~~any preceeding~~ claim 1 in powder form.

11. (Amended) The composition according to claim 9 ~~10~~ wherein the composition is in powder form, and the powder comprises the dried residue of claim 9(d) or the supernatant of claim 9(e) which is spray-dried or freeze-dried.

12. (Amended) The composition according to ~~any preceeding~~ claim 1 further comprising at least one of flavouring, sugars, sweetener, anti-oxidants, minerals or vitamins.

13. (Amended) The composition according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 for the prevention or treatment of Crohn's Disease.
14. (Amended) The composition according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein the soluble fibre is from fruit of the *Musa* spp.

Claims 15-18 (canceled).

19. (Original) A nutritional product for use in the prevention or treatment of Inflammatory Bowel Disease comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a soluble fibre derivable from fruit of the *Musa* spp.
20. (Original) A nutritional product according to claim 19 in the form of a beverage or drink.
21. (Original) The nutritional product according to claim 20 comprising between 1g/100ml and 30g/100ml of soluble fibre.
22. (Original) A nutritional product according to claim 19 in the form of a powder or powder mix.
23. (Original) A nutritional product according to claim 19 in the form of a food bar or other solid food stuff.
24. (New) A method for treating Inflammatory Bowel Disease in a subject, comprising:
 providing a composition comprising a soluble fibre derivable from fruit of *Musa* spp.; and
 administering a therapeutically effective amount of the composition to the subject.
25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the soluble fibre is derivable from an aqueous solution decantable from homogenised fruit.

26. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the soluble fibre is derivable from the precipitate of an aqueous solution treated with ethanol.
27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the soluble fibre is derived from a precipitate of an aqueous solution subjected to a precipitation step with 80% ethanol.
28. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the composition is in powder form.
29. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the composition further comprises at least one flavouring, at least one sugar, at least one sweetener, at least one anti-oxidant, at least one mineral, at least one vitamin, or a combination thereof.
30. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the Inflammatory Bowel Disease is Crohn's Disease.
31. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the soluble fibre is from fruit of the *Musa* spp.
32. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the composition further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
33. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the composition is a liquid, a capsule, or a tablet for oral consumption.